

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 15 September 1967



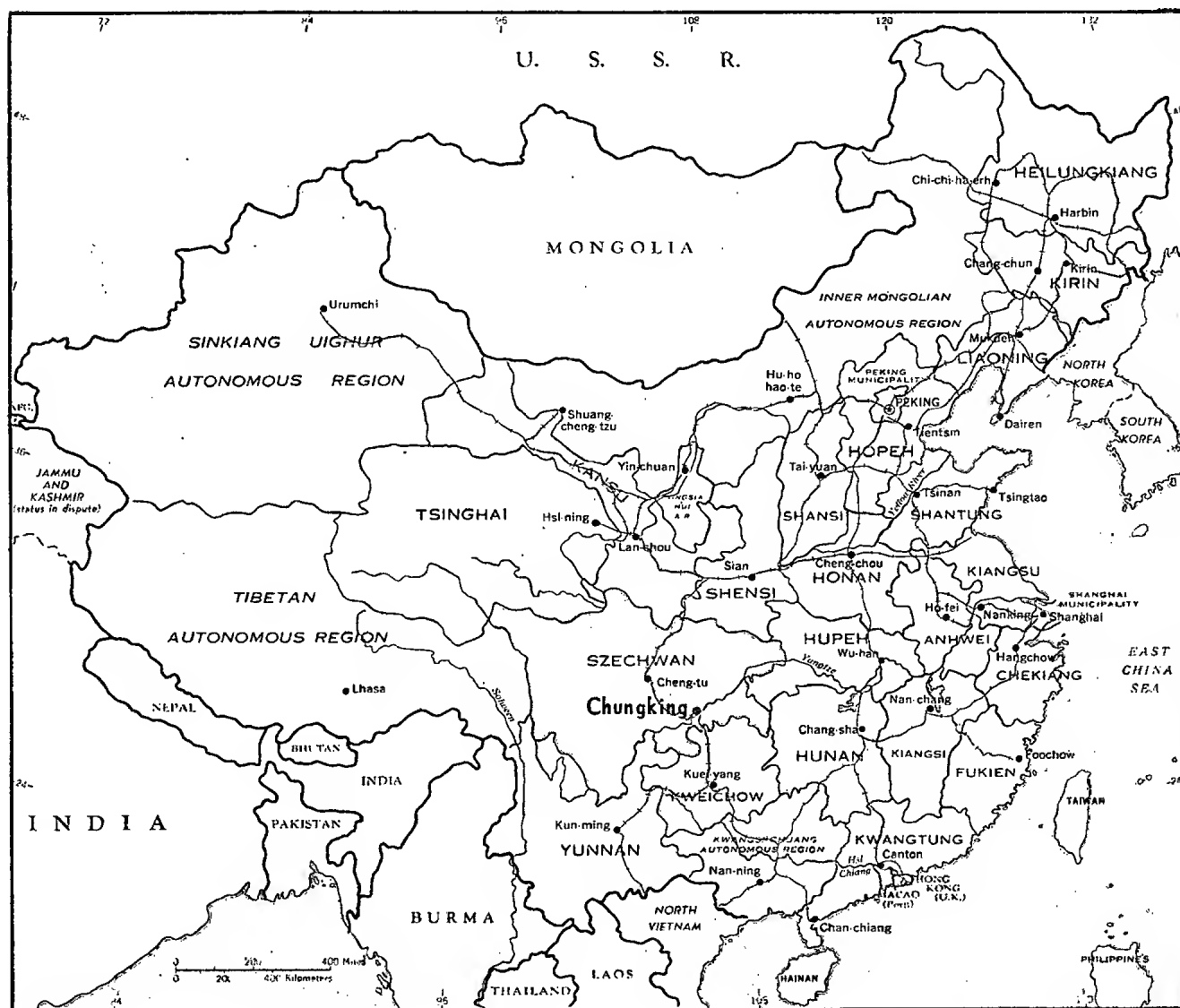
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LATE ITEM

South Vietnam

"Peace" candidate Truong Dinh Dzu was sentenced to nine months in prison today. He drew the sentence plus a heavy fine on charges of illegal foreign exchange manipulations and passing a bad check.

Claiming a frame-up, Dzu did not appear in court. Legal procedures probably will keep him out of jail for some months. He can be expected to use the time trying to make political capital with charges of government persecution.



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DAILY BRIEF
15 SEPTEMBER 1967

1. Communist China

The strife-torn industrial province of Szechwan now seems virtually isolated from the rest of the country. Rail service has been suspended for more than a month, and telecommunications are disrupted. Some air and river traffic is still moving.

An effort was made in August to effect a ceasefire between the warring factions, but this seems to have broken down, and there are frequent references to armed struggle in many parts of the province.

Local officials are flailing around desperately in the midst of this chaos.

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2. India

The Chinese have added the blare of loudspeakers to the sound of sporadic gunfire along the Sikkim-Tibet frontier. Local troops are broadcasting threats to use aircraft to "annihilate" the Indians.

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3. Cambodia

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4. Congo

The African summit wound up last night in Kinshasa. Nothing of great moment was accomplished. Resolutions were passed condemning the mercenaries in the Congo and supporting the Nigerian federal government in its war with Biafra. The delegates pledged new efforts to "liberate" southern Africa.

Mobutu now will turn back from his role as host to his own problems with Schramme and the mercenaries. He will probably ask for more US help against Schramme; so far Mobutu has not been filled in on US and Belgian planning aimed at evacuation of the mercenaries.

Elsewhere in the Congo several ugly incidents have been reported, including the murder of one Belgian technician.

5. Soviet Union

Since 6 June the Soviets have delivered between \$150 million and \$200 million in military equipment to the Arabs. The pace of shipments has slowed somewhat since early July, but we expect a continuing flow which in a year or so will replace most of the weapons lost in the war.

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**SPECIAL DAILY REPORT ON NORTH VIETNAM
FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY**

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Hanoi May Be Seeking Additional Cuban Assistance: Havana Radio announced the arrival in Cuba yesterday of Le Thanh Nghi, a North Vietnamese Politburo member. Nghi has been negotiating new extensions of economic and military assistance in various Communist capitals for several weeks. He undertakes these missions twice yearly but has never before visited Cuba.

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Hanoi Evacuation Continuing: A Hanoi newspaper editorial of late August points up the continued departure of nonessential people from the capital city. The paper stated that "almost all agencies, enterprises, and handicraft cooperatives in the zones likely to be attacked have been evacuated or dispersed to new locations." The general evacuation movement was said to have been stepped up in various city districts, with many families making arrangements to reside outside Hanoi permanently. In addition, very few evacuated school children returned to visit their homes during their summer vacation. We had estimated that as of the end of last year more than a third of Hanoi's total population of 1,000,000 had left. This further evacuation may reduce the city's total to less than a half million.

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